

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. §1.111
Serial No. 10/664,930
Attorney Docket No. 021385B

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Figs. 1 and 2.

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REMARKS

Claims 1-7 are pending, claims 1 and 2 are amended and claims 3-7 have been added to the application via the present submission.

Drawing Objections

Figs. 1 and 2 stand objected to because they were missing legends designating them as prior art. As shown above, the figures are now amended adding a --Prior Art-- legend. Withdrawal of the objection is now requested.

Claim Objections

Claims 1 and 2 stand objected to because the words "a prove" and "supplementary part" were held as not being disclosed in the specification. As shown above, Claim 1 is now amended changing "a prove" to "a probe" and "supplementary part" to "an element supplementing unit". The element supplementing unit is discussed in the specification, *e.g.*, on page 6, lines 14-29 and page 13, line 13 to page 14, line 31. Withdrawal of the objection is now requested.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1 and 2 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by *Parker* (U.S. Patent 6,452,410). Favorable reconsideration is requested in view of the amendments made herein.

Amended claim 1 describes a test apparatus used for testing a multilayer wiring board in between steps of fabrication. The test apparatus comprises a probe and an element

supplementing unit. The element supplementing unit mounts additional elements on the multilayer board under fabrication.

Claim 2 describes that the additional elements to be mounted on the multilayer wiring board are included in the element supplementing unit.

Applicants respectfully submit that *Parker* does not teach or suggest the subject matter presented above as specifically recited in the amended claims. *Parker* merely discloses testing of bare printed circuit boards by use of an electrolyte. The so-called “supplementary part” of *Parker* (reference numeral “1” of Fig. 1) is not an element of *Parker*’s test apparatus. Rather, reference numeral “1” of Fig. 1 is merely a bare printed circuit board. *Parker* never teaches or suggests the idea of the present invention where a “test apparatus” has a “probe” and an “element supplementing unit.”

Claims 1 to 3 are drawn to a test apparatus, which is characterized in that in each step of a process of fabricating a multilayer wiring board, a test step is performed when appropriate after an additional component is mounted on the wiring board being fabricated, and when defects are detected in the test step, the wiring board is fixed or disposed of, after that a next step of the fabrication process is performed or a process of fabricating a new circuit board is started. See, for example, the descriptions related to FIG. 4B (page 11, lines 16 to 36), and the descriptions related to FIG. 6.

New claim 3 relates to the upper test jig 50 and the lower test jig 60.

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New claims 4 to 7 are drawn to a method of fabricating a multilayer wiring board, having the features as disclosed in claims 1 to 3.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the anticipation rejection of claims 1 and 2 is hereby solicited.

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, Applicants submit that the claims, as herein amended, are in condition for allowance. Applicants request such action at an early date.

If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

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